

REMARKS

The Examiner's comments have been carefully reviewed and it is noted with appreciation that it is acknowledged that claims 2, 9, 13 and 14 recite allowable subject matter.

Accordingly and in order to expedite allowance, the limitations of claims 2 and 9 have been introduced into their respective base claims whereby amended claims 1 and 8 are now believed to be allowable. The remaining claims are believed to be allowable by virtue of their being dependent on allowable base claims thus rendering the rejections under §§102,103, moot.

Reference numerals have been deleted from the claims.

In addition, claims 6, 7 and 12 have been amended to render them clear and definite and to overcome the rejections under §112.

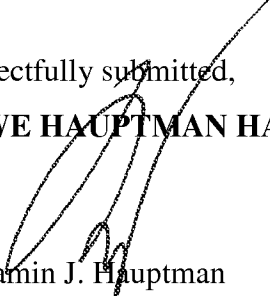
The rejection of claims under §101 are traversed. Claims 7 and 12 are dependent claims and therefore include all of the method steps recited in independent claims 1 and 8 respectively.

Favorable reconsideration and allowance are requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN HAM & BERNER, LLP



Benjamin J. Hauptman
Registration No. 29,310

1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1111
(703) 518-5499 Facsimile
Date: December 12, 2007
BJH/mps